

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Application No. 09/597,702

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 16, 17, 20, 22 and 24 which were added in the Amendment filed November 17, 2003. In particular, Applicant has amended claims 17 and 20 to clarify that the claimed host device comprises a logical-to-physical conversion layer (instead of a control and error correction layer) and a file system drive layer, as shown in Fig. 4 of the present application. Further, Applicant has amended claims 16, 19, 22 and 24 to provide a proper antecedent basis for the claim elements. The arguments for patentability regarding pending claims are set forth in the Amendment filed November 14, 2003.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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